Installation of a Shed for ReUse Swap Shop
(Funded By a Grant Provided by MassDEP)

The Town of Belchertown Department of Public Works continues to focus on ways to improve upon our resident drop-off program at our Transfer Station & Recycling Center located at 135 Hamilton Street, Belchertown. This year, we are seeking grant funding from the MassDEP Sustainable Materials Recycling Program (SMRP) for the installation of a 12 x 16 (192 sq ft.) shed for the ReUse of a Swap Shop.

The town foresees the installation of a “Swap Shop” beneficial in a few ways. First, it would allow the town’s Transfer Station permit sticker holders to drop off items that have some useful life in them as well as pick something up that might be of use. Although it is called a “Swap Shop”, we are not requiring our resident users to drop an item off nor take an item from the shop. Second, it will be a means for residents to contribute usable goods and materials which will, in addition, divert usable goods and materials from our waste stream.

Currently, the Belchertown Transfer Station & Recycling Center has very limited space for resident drop-off of good, re-useable products. Station attendants and town residents alike have cited the need for a contained area where both drop-off and take-away items may be stored throughout the seasons and through the use of a “Swap Shop”. In addition, the Belchertown Department of Public Works has received resident interest in favor of having a “Swap Shop” installed at our Transfer Station as they have noticed other neighboring cities/towns have implemented this measure and would welcome its addition to our station. We anticipate immediate success after installation.